Important points from Writers & Poets

Class: 5-12

Prepared by: Tousif Rehman

Class Five

- The poem 'The World We Make' is written by Alfred Grant Walton.
- 'Always Finish It' is a poem whose poet is anonymous.
- The poem 'Four Things To Do' is written by Henry Van Dyke.
- 'Helping Others' is a poem whose poet is anonymous.

Class Six

① A Nation's Strength

- 'A Nation's Strength' is a poem written by Ralph Waldo Emerson.
- The theme of the poem is that growth of a nation does not depend on wealth but on hard work, high moral character and dedicated labour.

② Little Things

- 'Little Things' is a poem written by Julia A. Carney.
- Julia Carney was an American poetess who was born in 1823 and died in 1908.

③ The Stream Where I Played

- 'The Spring Where I Played' is a poem whose poet is anonymous.
- The theme of the poem is that mankind's recklessness and ignorance has completely defaced the world.

④ The Mountain And The Squirrel

- The poem 'The Mountain And The Squirrel' is written by Ralph Waldo Emerson.
- The theme of the poem is that it is the efforts we put that matters not the size we have.

Class Seven

① It's Spring

- The poem 'It's Spring' is written by John Foster.
- John Foster was a British poet born in 1941.
- John Foster has written a total of twelve books of poems and compiled several collections.
- John Foster has also written a book about the Olympic Games.

② A Green Cornfield

- 'A Green Cornfield' is a poem written by Christina Rossetti.
- Her full name was Christina Georgina Rossetti.
- Christina Rossetti was a British-born poetess born on Dec 5, 1830 and died on Dec 29, 1894.

③ Beautiful Hands

- The poem 'Beautiful Hands' is written by Ellen Maria Huntington Gates.
- She was a major 19th Century poetess born in 1835, and died in 1920.
- The theme of 'Beautiful Hands' is about the praise of mothers for nurturing children.

④ Sow, Sow, Sow!

- The poem 'Sow, Sow, Sow!' is written by Eva Lovet.
- The theme of the poem is about the praise of fathers sowing fields to bring up children.

Class Eight

① The Dawn's Awake

- The poem 'The Dawn's Awake' is written by Otto Leland Bohanan.

- Bohanan was born in around 1895 in Washington, D.C. and was educated in public schools in Washington.
- Bohanan was a graduate of Howard Universty, School of Liberal Arts, Washington, D.C.
- He did special work in English at the Catholic University, Washington
- The theme of the poem is about the praise of early flourishing stages of development.

② What A Blessing!

- 'What A Blessing!' is a poem whose poet is anonymous.
- The theme of the poem is that getting up early in the morning is a blessing.

③ The Kingfisher

- The poem 'The Kingfisher' is written by William Henry Davies.
- He was a Welsh poet born on July 3, 1871 in Newport and died on Sep 26, 1940 in Nailsworth.
- For some time he became a vagabond in the UK.

④ The Guest House

- The poem 'The Guest House' is written by Maulana Jalaluddin Rumi and translated into English by Coleman Barks.
- Rumi was a 13th Century Persian poet, as Islamic dervish and a Sufi mystic.
- He was born in 1207 to a family of learned theologians.
- The guest house is a metaphor for human being, who should welcome every moment, sad and happy, as guests.

Class Eight (Test Edition)

- The poem 'A Time to talk' is written by Robert Frost on the theme of value of relationship and conversation.

- The poem 'Everyday It Happens' is written by Kathleen Kiker on the theme of bullying of a child at the hands of other children in his/her school.
- The poem 'Do It Anyway!' is written by Mother Teresa on the theme of forgiving people and continuing persistance.
- Mother Teresa was a Nobel Prize winning poetess who was born in 1910 and died in 1997.
- The short story 'The Happy Prince' is written by an Oxford graduate Irish poet, Oscar Wilde, on the theme of social injustice and inequality.
- Oscar Wilde was born in 1854 and died in 1900.
- The poem 'I'll Tell You How The Sun Rose' is written by Emily Dickinson, on the theme of beauty and wonder of sunrise.

Class Nine

(1) The Daffodils

- The poem 'The Daffodils' is written by William Wordsworth on the theme of beauty of nature.
- Wordsworth was born on April 7, 1770 at Cockermouth in Cambria and died on April 23, 1850.
- Wordsworth settled at Dove Cottage in Grasmere in the Lake District in 1799 where he wrote his poem 'The Daffodils'.
- 'The Daffodils' has four stanzas each of six lines, rhyme scheme ababcc.

(2) Hope Is A Thing With Feathers

- 'Hope Is A Thing With Feathers' is a poem written by Emily Dickinson, on the theme of hope.

- The poem has three stanzas of four lines each following rhyme scheme abcb.
- Dickinson is a 19th century American poetess born in Amherst, Massachusetts.
- Dickinson's father was a lawyer and treasurer of the local college, her mother was a religious, hardworking housewife.
- Dickinson was educated at Amherst Academy.
- Dickinson was born on Dec 10, 1830 and at the age of 55 on May 15, 1886.

③ The Old Woman

- The poem 'The Old Woman' is written by Joseph Campbell on the theme of humanity and family values.
- Joseph Campbell was born in 1906 in White Plains, New York.
- Campbell's first published work was "Where The Two Came To Their Father".

④ Abou Ben Adhem

- The poem 'Abou Ben Adhem' was written by James Henry Leigh Hunt on the theme of love of humanity.
- Leigh Hunt was born on Oct 19, 1784 in Southgate, Middlesex and died on Aug 28, 1859 in London.
- Leigh Hunt achieved an early succes as a critic, essayist, journalist and poet.
- The poem "Abou Ben Adhem' has four stanzas, two being five lines each and the other two being four lines each.

Class Ten

① The Champions

- The short story 'The Champions' is an adoptation of 'Amigo Brothers' by Piri Thomas.

② Dreams

- The poem 'Dreams' is written by Langston Hughes on the theme of value of chasing dreams.
- The poem has two stanzas of four lines each with a rhyme scheme abcb.
- Langston Hughes was born on Feb 1, 1902 in Joplin, Missouri, and died on May 22, 1967.
- Hughes published his first book in 1926.
- Hughes wrote works of poetry, prose, plays and a popular column for the Chicago Defender.

③ In Spite Of War

- The poem 'In Spite Of War' is written by Angela Morgan on the theme of war and hope.
- The poem has seven stanzas.
- Angela Morgan was born in 1875 in Washington, DC, and died on Jan 24, 1957 in New York.
- Morgan's name at birth was Nina Lillian.
- Morgan started her career as a journalist for the Chicago and New York newspapers.
- Morgan wrote fourteen books of poems, one novel, and a book of short stories.

④ The Aged Mother

- The short story 'The Aged Mother" is a translation of a Japenese folktale by Matsuo Basho.

⑤ Equipment

- The poem 'Equipment' is written by Edgar Guest on the theme of how to achieve greatness.
- The poem has five stanzas of six lines each and following a rhyme scheme aabbcc.

- Edgar Albert Guest was born on Aug 20, 1881 in Birmingham, England - and died on Aug 5, 1959 in Detroit, Michigan.
- Guest was an English-born American poet.
- Guest became known as the People's poet.
- Guest's poems had an inspirational and optimistic view of everyday life.

⑥ They Have Cut Down The Pines

- The poem 'They Have Cut Down The Pines' is written by Mary Lisle on the theme of loss of natural wealth.
- The poem has two stanzas in open verse form.
- Mary Lisle was born in Riverina New South Wales, Australia in 1897 and died in 1973.
- Mary contributed poems to periodicals like: 'The County Life', 'The Bulletin', and 'The Prism And Vision'.
- Mary Lisle published two collections of poetry: 'The Secret Fire' in 1947 - and 'The Inlanders' in 1968.

⑦ The Model Millionaire

- The short story 'The Model Millionaire' is written by Oscar Wilde on the theme of shared kindness.
- Oscar Wilde was an Irish poet, novelist, dramatist and short story writer born on Oct 16, 1854 and died on Nov 30, 1900.

⑧ Opportunity

- The poem 'Oportunity' is written by Walter Malone.
- The poem has six stanzas of four lines each following rhyme scheme abab
- 'Opportunity' is a brief lyric poem.
- Walter Mulone was born in De Soto County, Mississippi in 1866 and died in Memphis, Tennessee in 1915.
- "De Soto" is an epic poem written by Walter Malone.

Prepared by: Tousif Rehman
Class Eleven

① Responsibilities Of Youth

- 'Responsibilities of Youth' is an excerpt from the Quaid's speech delivered at the Dhaka University Convocation on Mar 24, 1948.

② His First Flight

- The short story 'His First Flight' is written by an Irish novelist Liam O'Flaherty on the theme of courage and success.
- Liam O'Flaherty was born in the Arran Islands, County Galloway in 1896 and died in 1984.
- He was educated at University College, Dublin.
- Flaherty's autobiography 'Shame The Devil' was published in 1934.
- Major works of Flaherty are:
① Thy Neighbour's Wife (1924), ② The Informer (1925 & filmed, 1935), ③ Mr. Gilhooley (1926), ④ Short Stories (1937, revised in 1956), ⑤ Land (1946), ⑥ Two Lovely Beasts and Other Stories (1950), ⑦ Insurrection (1951), ⑧ The Pedlar's Revenge and Other Stories (1976).

③ Good Timber

- The poem 'Good Timber' is written by Douglas Malloch on the theme of importance and faults of competition.
- Douglas Malloch was born on May 5, 1877 and died on July 2, 1938.
- Douglas was an American poet, short story writer and Associate Editor of American Lumberman, a trade paper in Chicago.
- Douglas was known as a 'Lumberman's poet'.
- Douglas's other noted works are: ① Round River Drive and ② Be The Best Of Whatever You Are.

④ From Mother ... With Love

- The short story 'From Mother... With Love' is written by Zoa Sherburne on the theme of love, care, family values.
- Sherburne was born on Sep 30, 1912 and died on Oct 10, 1995. She was born in Seattle, Washington.

- Sherburne was an American author, known for young adult fiction.
- Sherburne's novels are about girls in difficult circumstances.
- Sherburne wrote over 300 short stories and published thirteen novels which have been translated into over 27 languages.
- Her book 'Stranger In The House' is about a family dealing with the return of theis mother from a mental institution. This story became an inspiration for movie 'Memories Never Die' in 1982.

⑤ It's Country For Me

- The story 'It's Country For Me' is about nature and countryside life, and is written by Patricia Demuth
- Patricia and her husband grew up in small towns in Iowa.
- Patricia took inspiration from a farm in Wisconsin For her book 'Joel: Growing Up A Farm Man', which was awarded Best Children Book of 1982 by The Society Of Midland Authors.

⑥ Mother To Son

- The poem 'Mother To Son' is written by Langston Hughes on the theme of struggle and persistance in face of difficulties.
- Hughes's full name is James Mercer Langston Hughes who was an American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright and columnist.
- Langston Hughes was born on Feb 1, 1902 and died on May 22, 1967.
- Langston Hughes' is known as a leader of the Harlem Renaissance.
- Hughes's first work was published in 1921.
- Some of Hughes's famous poems are: ① Dreams, ② Still Here, ③ Montage Of A Dream Deferred, ④ Life Is Fine, ⑤ I, Too, ⑥ The Negro Speaks Of Rivers; ⑦ Po'Boy Blues, ⑧ The Weary Blues.
- The poem 'Mother To Son' is written in free-verse form.

⑦ Wasteland

- The essay 'Wasteland' is written by Marya Mannes to argue for the conservation of nature.

- The essay 'Wasteland' was published in her book 'More In Anger' in 1958 in the U.S.
- Marya Mannes was an American writer, editor and social critic - born in 1904 and died in 1990 - who wrote against hypocricy of American Dream and lifestyle.

⑧ The White Lamb

- The short story 'The White Lamb' is written by Sero Khanzadian and translated into English by Fianna Glagolva on the themes of family values and generation gap.
- Sero Khanzadian was a school teacher in Armenia, before he was called to service in 1941 during WWII.
- Sero's first book 'The People Of Our Regiment came out in 1949 about the courageous defenders of Leningrad.
- Sero also wrote several novels and short story collections.

⑨ The World Is TOO Much With Us

- The poem 'The World Is Too Much With Us' is written by the British Romantic poet, William Wordsworth on the theme of man's disconnection with nature and indulgence in materialism.
- William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge jointly published 'Lyrical Ballads' in 1798.
- The poem 'The World Is Too Much With Us' is in sonnet form containing two stanzas - the first containing eight lines rhymed (abbaabba); and the other, six lines with a rhyme scheme (cdecde).
- Other famous poems of Wordsworth are:
  ① The Prelude, ② The Daffodils, ③ Lucy Poems
  ④ Ode On Intimations Of Immortality

⑩ The Importance Of Family

- The essay 'The Importance of Family' is written by Sam Keen on the theme of family values.
- Sam Keen was an American author, professor, and philosopher born in 1931.
- Some of his books are:

① Sightings: Extraordinary Encounters With Ordinary Birds (2007), ② Faces Of The Enemy, ③ Reflections Of The Hostile Imagination (2004), ④ Learning To Fly: Reflections On Fear, Trust, And The Joy Of Letting Go (1999), ⑤ To Love And Be Loved (1997), ⑥ Inward Bound: Exploring The Geography Of Your Emotions (1992), ⑦ Fire In The Belly: On Being A Man (1991), ⑧ Your Mythic Journey (1990).

⑪ The Blanket

- The short story 'The Blanket' is written by Floyd Dell on the theme of family values.
- Floyd Dell was born in 1887 in Pike County, Missouri, and died in 1969.
- At sixteen, Dell joined the Socialist Party, and wrote for a small socialist monthly Tri-City Workers' Magazine.
- Dell also worked as a sub-reporter for the Davenport Times.
- He later joined the Chicago Evening Post and by 1911, Dell was editor of the newspaper's Friday Literary Review.

⑫ Ozymandias

- The poem 'Ozymandias' is written by Percy Bysshe Shelley on the Theme of value and importance of art.
- The poem 'Ozymandias' is in sonnet form containing two stanzas — the first consisting of eight lines rhymed (abababcdcd), and the other consisting of six lines with a rhyme scheme (efegeg).

- Percy Bysshe Shelley was born on Aug 4, 1792 and died on July 8, 1822.
- Shelley's best-known poems include:
  ① Ode To The West Wind, ② Ozymandias, ③ To Skylark, ④ The Cloud, ⑤ The Mask Of Anarchy, ⑥ Music When Soft Voices Die.

⑬ A Long Walk Home

- 'A Long Walk Home' is an autobiography by Jason Bocarro, taken from his collection of real life stories 'Chicken Soup For The Teenage Soul'.
- Jason Bocarro was born in Estepona, Spain, but he lives in the United States now.
- 'A Long Walk Home' is written on the theme of value of truth, honesty and uprightness.

⑭ University Days

- 'University Days' is an autobiography by James Thurber, an American writer and artist famous for writing humorous prose, but dampened by melancholy.
- Thurber was born in 1894 and died in 1961.
- Thurber states his artistic credo as: "Humour is a kind of emotional chaos talked about calmly and quietly in retrospect."

⑮. School Vs Education

- The essay 'School Vs Education' is written by Russell Wayne Baker, an American journalist and narrator.
- Russell was born on Aug 14, 1925 and died on Jan 21, 2019.
- He was a columnist for The New York Times from 1962 to 1998.
- Russell is the author of Pulitzer prize-winning autobiography 'Growing Up' which came out in 1983, as well as Pulitzer prize-winning satirical commentary and self-critical prose.

(16) What You Do Is What You Are

- The essay. "What You Do Is What You Are' is written by Nickie McWhirter on the theme of importance of 'work' in making up one's identity.

(17) A Dream Within A Dream

- The poem 'A Dream Within A Dream' is written by Edgar Allan Poe to question the boundry between dreams and realty.
- Edgar Allan Poe was an American writer, poet, editor and literary critic born on Jan 19, 1809 and died on Oct 7, 1849.
- Poe is the central figure of Romanticism in the United States.
- Some of Poe's famous works include: ① Al-Aaraaf, ② Annabel Lee, ③ The Bells, ④ The City In The Sea, ⑤ The Conqueror Worm, ⑥ A Dream Within A Dream, ⑦ Eldorado, ⑧ Eulalie, ⑨ To Helen, ⑩ Lenore, ⑪ The Haunted Palace, ⑫ The Raven.

(18) The Road Not Taken

- The poem 'The Road Not Taken' is written by Robert Frost on the theme of dilemma of choice and its results.
- Robert Lee Frost was an American poet born on March 26, 1874 and died on Jan 29, 1963, who wrote about life in New England in the early twentieth century.
- 'The Road Not Taken' has four stanzas - five lines each and rhyming scheme (abaab).
- Robert Frost's most famous poems include: ① The Gift Outright ② Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening, ③ Birches, ④ Mending Walls, ⑤ The Road Not Taken, ⑥ Nothing Gold Can Stay.

(19) Progress

- "Progress" is a play in one act written by Saint John Greer Ervine on the theme of war ethics and human values.

- The play is set in a remote village in the North of England on a spring day in the year 1919, featuring three characters: ① Professor Henry Corrie, ② Mrs. Meldon, his sister, ③ Hannah (a servant) - and two offstage characters: ① Eddie (Mrs Meldon's son), ② Tom (her husband).
- St. Ervine was a British playwright, novelist and critic born on Dec 28, 1883 in Belfast, Ireland, and died on Jan 24, 1971 in London, England.
- St. Ervine's best-known plays are: ① Mixed Marriage (1911), ② Jane Clegg (1913), ③ John Ferguson (1915).
- After World War I, Ervine settled in London and became a drama critic for 'The Observer'. His books on drama are: ① The Organized Theatre (1924), ② The Theatre In My Time (1933).
- Ervine's later plays are comedies including: ① The First Mrs. Fraser (1928), ② a rousing London success; ② Robert's Wife (1937), ③ Private Enterprise (1947).
- Ervine wrote biographies of: ① William Booth, ② Oscar Wilde, and ③ George Bernard Shaw, ④ Frances Place.
- Ervine's novels include: ① The Taylor of Charing Cross (1912) and ② Alice And A Family (1915).

Class Twelve

① Solitary Reaper

- The poem 'Solitary Reaper' is written by William Wordsworth on the theme of beauty of nature and solitariness.
- Wordsworth was born in Cockermouth, Cumberland located in the Lake District of England.
- Wordsworth became 'the poet laureate' in 1843 on the insistence of the then prime minister, Robert Peef.

- 'The Solitary Reaper' has four stanzas of eight lines each containing rhyme scheme (ababccdd).

② Truck Art

- The research essay "Truck Art' is written by Rachal Redford.
- Redford is author of secondary textbook series: Oxford English: An International Approach.
- Redford has also written two students books and a Teacher's Guide for Oxford University Press to accompany the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GSCE).
- Her other publications include 'Texts from Other Cultures', which is a collection of extracts from writings across world.
- She lives in Carisbrooke on the Isle of Wight in England.

③ The Last Leaf

- The short story 'The Last Leaf' is written by O, Henry on the theme of value of art.
- O Henry's real name of William Sidney Porter.
- O Henry was an American short story writer, born on Sep 11, 1862 in Greensboro, North Carolina and died on June 5, 1910 in New York.
- O Henry moved to New York in 1902, where he wrote 381 short stories — famous of which are:
  ① The Gift Of The Magi, ② The Ransom Of Red Chief, ③ The Cop And The Anthem, ④ A Retrieved Reformation

④ If

- The poem 'If' is written by Rudyard Kipling on the theme of determination for work despite setbacks.
- Rudyard Kipling was born in 1865 in Bombay, India and died in 1936.

- Kipling's father was a curator of Lahore museum.
- Kipling went to England for study and returned to India as a journalist in 1882.
- Kipling became the first Englishman to receive the Nobel Prize for literature in 1907.
- Kipling's two 'Jungle Books' (1894 & 1895) are set in India, and 'Kim', a novel, is set in pre-partition Lahore.
- The poem 'If' has four stanzas of eight lines each and a rhyme scheme (ababcdcd).

⑤ The Toys

- The poem 'The Toys' is written by Coventry Patmore on the theme of parental love, forgiveness and divine mercy.
- The poem is written in free verse style.
- Coventry Patmore was an English Victorian poet and critic born on July 23, 1823 and died on Nov 26, 1896.
- Patmore is known for his 'narrative poem' about the Victorian ideals of a happy marriage, named 'The Angel In The House'.
- Patmore's first book of poems was published in 1844 upon which he was employed in the British museum.
- Patmore's later poems have a theme of grief of loss.

⑥ All The World's A Stage

- 'All The World's A Stage' is a famous monologue written by William Shakespeare on the theme of human metamorphosis.
- The monologue is written in iambic pentameter blank verse form.
- William Shakespeare was an English poet, playwright and actor born on April 26, 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon and died on April 23, 1616, aged 52.
- Shakespeare is called England's national poet and nicknamed Bard of Avon.
- He wrote about 38 plays, 154 sonnets, 2 long narrative poems and a few other verses.

⑦ Lingkuan Gorge

- The short story 'Lingkuan Gorge' is written by a Chinese writer Tu Peng-Cheng on the theme of work ethics.
- The story is anonymously translated into English.
- Tu-Peng Cheng was born in province Shenshi or Shaanxi in 1921.
- He worked as a correspondent for the New China News during China's civil war in the late 1940's.
- Cheng's acclaimed war novel 'Defend Yenan' was published in 1954.
- In 1958, he published his next major novel 'In Peacetime', describing workers constructing Paoki-Chengtu or Baoji-Chengdu Railway.
- Cheng fell from favour in 1960's but began writing in 1978.

⑧ Once Upon A Time

- The poem 'Once Upon A Time' is written by Gabriel Okara on the theme of loss of values and sincerity in modern life
- The poem has a free verse style.
- Gabriel Okara was born in Western Nigeria in 1921.
- Okara was awarded the Commonwealth Poetry Prize in 1979.

⑨ Désirée's Baby

- The short story 'Désirée's Baby' is written by a 20th century American feminist author, Kate Chopin, on the theme of racism, identity and destructive power of prejudice.
- Kate Chopin was born on Feb 8, 1850 and died on Aug 22, 1904.
- Her short stories and novels are based in Louisiana.

⑩ The Deserted Village

- The poem from which lines are selected is 'The Deserted Village' written by Oliver Goldsmith on the theme of decline of rural life and corrupting influence of greed and luxury.
- The original full poem has 430 lines in heroic couplets.
- Oliver Goldsmith was born on Nov 10, 1730 in Kilkenny West, Ireland and died on April 4, 1774 in London.

- He was son of an Anglo-Irish clergyman, Charles Goldsmith.
- He received his BA degree in February 1749 from Trinity College, Dublin.
- Goldsmith was a poet, novelist and playwright. His major works include:
  1. The Vicar of Wakefield (novel)
  2. The Deserted Village (1770s poem)
  3. The Good Natur'd Man (play)
  4. She Stoops To Conquer (play)

11. Lord Of The Flies

- The novel 'Lord Of The Flies' is written by a British novelist William Golding on the theme of inherent evil and savagery within human nature.
- William Golding was born on Sep 19, 1911 and died on June 19, 1993.
- The main characters of the novel are: Ralph, Jack Merridew, Piggy, Simon, Roger and the twin brothers Samneric (Sam and Eric).

X——X——X——X